NEWS RELEASE

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

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DATE: April 26, 2018

CONTACT: Paul Holtan (608-267-7517) and Rori Paloski (608-264-6040)

SUBJECT: Incidental take notice for Sheboygan County

MADISON – The proposed Kohler Golf Course may result in the "incidental taking" of a rare plant under a permit the Department of Natural Resources proposes to issue for the project. Incidental take refers to the unintentional loss of individual endangered or threatened animals or plants that does not put the overall population of the species at risk.

The Kohler Company proposes to develop an 18-hole public golf course, a clubhouse, and support amenities on approximately 250 acres of private land owned by Kohler. This property is located in the City of Sheboygan, Sheboygan County, Wisconsin. Access to the property is proposed through an easement or a land exchange on the adjacent State Park property to the south.

No work will begin on lands subject to an easement across the Kohler-Andrae State Park or a land exchange involving park lands and property presently owned by the Kohler Company until the land transactions are finalized and recorded.

The presence of the state threatened sand reedgrass (*Calamovilfa longifolia var. magna*) has been confirmed in the vicinity of the project site. DNR staff determined that the proposed project may result in the incidental taking of some plants.

The Department has concluded that the proposed project is not likely to appreciably reduce the likelihood of the survival or recovery of the species within the state, the whole plant-animal community of which it is a part or the habitat that is critical to its existence.

The conservation measures to minimize the adverse effect on the threatened species will be incorporated into the proposed Incidental Take Permit. Copies of the jeopardy assessment and background information on sand reedgrass are available by searching the DNR website for incidental take public notice or upon request from Paul Holtan (608-267-7517, paul.holtan@wi.gov) or Rori Paloski (608-264-6040, rori.paloski@wi.gov). The department is requesting comments from the public through May 26, 2018 regarding project-related impacts to sand reedgrass. Public comments should be sent to Rori Paloski, WDNR, PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921 or rori.paloski@wi.gov.

DNR Office of Communications. DNR Spokesperson: Jim Dick (608) 267-2773